



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – Art Unit 3627

Attorney Docket No. 37310.8008

*•PATENT*  
*Patricia Deors*  
*#15B w*  
*9-25-02*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

McAulay & Cohen

APPLICATION NO.: 09/519,008

FILED: March 3, 2000

FOR: **DISTRIBUTED ELECTRONIC  
ENTERTAINMENT METHOD AND  
APPARATUS**

EXAMINER: RUDY, ANDREW J.

ART UNIT: 3627

CONFIRMATION NO.: 6539

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Amendment and Response After Final Under 37 CFR 1.116

*OK to file  
KJF 9/25/02*  
Box RCE  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated May 9, 2002, in the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Specification:

On page 19, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following substitute paragraph. No new matter has been added.

Figure 8 is a block diagram of an embodiment of an entertainment unit 1100. User 1002 interacts with user interface 1006. Through the user interface 1006, the user may access a music selection GUI 1040 and game selection GUI 1042, and the web browser 1012. In some embodiments, the user interface 1006 also allows the user to order food, beverages, or any other product or service provided by the venue. In one embodiment, user ID logic 1004 queries the user for ID information, which may be input by using a keyboard or a touchscreen, by providing a thumbprint, or by allowing a photograph of the user's face to be taken. If the user has

previously submitted data (such as ID number, thumbprint or facial image) that data is stored along with charge account data for the user. Stored data is compared with currently collected data. If the comparison yields a match, the user is successfully identified and any stored information about the user may be accessed to make the interaction with the entertainment unit faster and more enjoyable. For example, the user may have account information stored that allows the entertainment unit to automatically debit a user account for any charges incurred by the user in the venue using user account logic 1008. The user may also store preferences, such as game and music preferences. The user may also store data that the user wishes to see automatically displayed on the web browser, such as certain news reports and stock quotes.

*fb  
cont'd*

In the Claims:

~~Please replace claims 1, 11, 16, 26, 27, 29, and 30 with the following substitute claims.~~

~~Please cancel claim 31 without prejudice:~~

*SB*

1. (Twice Amended) A distributed entertainment system comprising:  
a central resource coupled to a wide area network (WAN), wherein the central resource includes a central content storage module that stores entertainment content, including a master list of entertainment content items available through the WAN;  
at least one entertainment unit coupled to the WAN, the at least one entertainment unit comprising,  
*B2*  
a user interface, comprising at least one graphical user interface (GUI);  
a local memory device that stores two or more sets of entertainment content grouped according to a common characteristic;  
a local list of the entertainment content stored on the local memory device;  
a local cache capable of storing entertainment content requested from the master list;  
a peripheral interface; and  
a user input device; and  
a plurality of peripheral devices coupled to the at least one entertainment unit via the peripheral interface, wherein a user, through the user input device and the user interface, views the master list and the local list of entertainment content items, and requests an item from the